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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

For the concise explanation of relevance for the non-English documents the Examiner is referred to the abstracts attached thereto.

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following U.S. Applications:

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT
09/041,639	3/13/98	2875
09/511,349	2/23/00	2879
09/337,250	6/22/99	2875
09/722,702	11/28/00	N.Y.A.

Copies of the cited applications are enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 42, 476

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